

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 11 have been canceled and replaced with new claims 12 to 19 better to point out that which applicants regard as their invention. New claim 12 is based upon a combination of claims 1, 5, 7, and 10 while new claim 16 is based upon a combination of claims 1, 5, 8, and language related to claim 10. New claims 13 to 15 and 18 to 19 are both based upon original claims 2 to 4. No counterpart claim has been presented corresponding to claim 11.

The rejection of claims 1 to 11 under the second paragraph of 35 USC 112 is acknowledged. The Examiner had questioned what was meant by the term "defect portion" and stated the record showed only that "defect portion" encompassed at least crystallization and/or development of dark spots. Taking the Examiner's helpful comment into consideration, new claims 12 and 16 both refer to not causing crystallization and/or development of dark spots rather than "defect portion." The questions regarding the last three lines of claim 11 are no longer of concern in view of the cancellation of that claim.

Furthermore in view of the new claims, it is respectfully submitted that the rejections based upon Inoue et al. '308 under 35 USC 102 and/or 35 USC 103 and the rejection of the claims under 35 USC 103 over Sakai et al. EP '366 are moot

because the new claims contain limitations from claims that were not so rejected.

The rejection of claims 1 to 11 under 35 USC 103 as unpatentable over Inoue et al. '308 further in view of Hosokawa et al. '949, if applied to any of claims 12 to 19, is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner is thanked for the detailed analysis of her position in the Office Action but applicants respectfully submit that one of ordinary skill in the art would not, from a reading of these references, be directed to the invention as claimed. Applicants' position is based upon the following.

The Examiner acknowledges that Inoue et al. '308 does not teach or suggest the combined use of phenylanthracene derivatives of the general formulae (2) or (3), shown in new claims 12 and 16, respectively, with the light emitting materials of general formula (1).

Assuming for purposes of argument that Hosokawa et al. '949 shows compounds represented by general formula (1), the reference does not clearly teach or suggest the general formulae (2) or (3) present in new claims 12 and 16. The reference, moreover, does not teach or suggest that the energy gap of compounds represented by general formulae (2) or (3) is greater than the compounds of general formula (1).

Moreover, as explained at page 9, second paragraph of the instant application, with the invention as claimed, the electrical properties such as the driving voltage and the efficiency of light emission or the life of the device are not affected by the bis-condensed aromatic cyclic compounds. Rather, those properties remain in the same state as those of a device that does not contain such compounds, even if the bis-condensed aromatic cyclic compounds are embraced with the larger definition of organic compounds. (The references, however, have no such recognition.) This quality is advantageous because such compounds do not take part in the recombination of electrons or holes or in the formation of the excited state. Furthermore, it is possible in the present invention to suppress crystallization in the device, even if driving is continued for a long period of time or there is a change in thermal environment. Applicants respectfully submit that such advantages are not taught or suggested in the art and that the claims patentably define thereover.

In view of the foregoing revisions and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance and a USPTO paper to those ends is earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is requested to tel phone the undersigned  
if additional changes are required in the case prior to  
allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

PARKHURST & WENDEL, L.L.P.

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Charles A. Wendel  
Charles A. Wendel  
Registration No. 24,453

CAW/ch  
Attorney Docket No.: OHTN:011

PARKHURST & WENDEL, L.L.P.  
1421 Prince Street  
Suite 210  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314-2805  
Telephone: (703) 739-0220